

Memo

To: Elementary Reading Coordinators; Secondary Reading Coordinators; Regional Offices
From: Reed Spencer, Language Arts Coordinator
Date: January 27, 2010
Re: Professional Development Grants for Literacy

As announced in State Literacy meetings yesterday, the Utah State Office of Education is providing grants for professional development in literacy. Please note that these grants **MUST** be used for specific types of professional development.

Who may apply?

Districts, charter schools, regional offices, and any combination thereof, e.g. groups of districts, regional consortia (e.g. NUCC), etc.

What is the size of the grant awards?

Individual districts or charter schools may not receive more than \$5,000.
Consortia or groups of districts may apply for up to \$10,000.

What is the money to be used for?

Guidance from the Federal Government regarding these funds is as follows:

“State-level activities include but are not limited to:

- (1) Recruiting and retaining highly qualified teachers and principals;
- (2) Increasing the number of highly qualified teachers in classrooms; and
- (3) Reforming teacher and principal certification programs. They must be based on a needs assessment, and, among other things, be aligned with state academic content standards, student academic achievement standards, and state assessments (for formula grants). The SAHE works in conjunction with the SEA to make competitive subgrants to partnerships of IHEs, high-need LEAs, and other entities (for competitive grants) through specific activities that focus on professional development for teachers, highly qualified paraprofessionals, and, if appropriate, principals.”

Is there a priority?

Yes. Our intent is to award half of the funds for secondary literacy efforts.

How soon does the money have to be spent?

There must be a plan in the application to expend the funds by September 30, 2010.

What is the grant deadline?

February 26, 2010.

How will the LEA receive the money?

All funds are issued on a C-20, and will be distributed on a reimbursement basis only.

Is there an application? Who should I send it to?

Attached is an application. It is a Standard Request for Assistance application. When completed it should be sent to Dr. Reed F. Spencer at the Utah State Office of Education, 250 East 500 South PO Box 144200 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4200.